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*Amick*  
2/1/02  
PATENT

Customer Number 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 2356.0062-05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In re Appln of: )  
)  
Maurice MONCANY et al. )  
)  
Serial No.: 09/670,105 ) Prior Group Art Unit: 1648  
)  
Filed: September 26, 2000 ) Prior Examiner: J. Stucker

For: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES DERIVED FROM THE GENOME OF  
RETROVIRUSES OF THE HIV-1, HIV-2 AND SIV TYPE, AND THEIR USES IN  
PARTICULAR FOR THE AMPLIFICATION OF THE GENOMES OF THESE  
RETROVIRUSES AND FOR THE IN VITRO DIAGNOSIS OF THE DISEASES  
DUE TO THESE VIRUSES

02/05/2002 SMINASS1 00000032 09670105

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

01 FC:103  
02 FC:102

126.00 OP  
252.00 OP

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH SEQUENCE RULES**

In response to the Communication dated December 4, 2001, requesting  
compliance with the Sequence Rules, 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825, applicants submit the  
following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

27. (Amended) A polypeptide fragment of a viral protein encoded by a  
nucleotide sequence from a viral genome selected from the group consisting of HIV-1,  
HIV-2, and SIV and expressed by a method comprising:

a) amplifying the nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide with at least two  
primers, wherein said first primer is complementary to a region of nucleotides of the

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